

Reinstate funds for Dillingham street projects right away!

**Subject:** Reinstate funds for Dillingham street projects right away!

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The Alaska DOT has programmed zero dollars until FY09 in the draft STIP.

The Dillingham downtown streets road projects and the Wood River Road project have been delayed year after year.

The monies and hundreds of man hours and equipment costs spent resurfacing, graveling and/or patching these roads which need to be paved or repaved is costing more than the cost of doing the job right in the first place. What a waste of money to keep putting these projects off. The paving of Wood River and the addition of a bike path would greatly improve the health, safety and well being of our community.

The paving of roads helps us not to have to not breathe the dust from the gravel roads; reduces accidents from sliding on the gravel. The bike paths make it safe to walk for children and adults alike to walk, bike roller skate, etc. These activities promote wellness and reduce diseases like obesity and diabetes, heart disease, asthma (less dust to breathe in), etc.

The importance of roads in rural areas that have little other activities available are so so important to rural communities.

Please reinstate funding for Dillingham road projects because they are so vital for our community for health, safety and they decrease intensity and cost of gravel road maintenance. Thank you.

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